

measurable characters of the three species reveals such a large number of differences that their digital similarities are probably due to parallelism and are therefore homoplastic but not homologous.

Remarks: The holotype of *Diplodactylus maini* was collected at night on unblown yellow sand. The two specimens from Newman Rock were collected at night in a eucalypt woodland.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Record of the Euro near Toodyay.—Barker (*W.Aust. Nat.*, 6, 1958: 154) records the occurrence of the Euro (*Macropus robustus*) in the Mokine area. I wish to add to his observations by reporting the sighting of four Euros at Culham in September 1960. The animals were all a dark brick red colour. One of them appeared sick, it was extremely thin and fell over several times as it hopped away.

The country where the sightings were made, is typical Wandoo breakaway, similar to that described by Barker at Mokine.

—P. McMILLAN, Guildford.

Glossy Ibis in the South-West.—The last published record of this species in the South-West (*W.A. Nat.*, 6: 55 and 6: 150) is of a single bird in the Fremantle area during November 1956 and January-February 1957. There are only half a dozen other published records for the South-West.

On February 6, 1962, I saw a Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) at a backwater of the Peel Inlet near the area known as "The Chimneys." It was perched on a rock in company with Little Pied Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*) and a few White-faced Herons (*Notophoxyx novae-hollandiae*), and Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) were feeding in the close vicinity.

R. H. Stranger and Brian Leaky saw two Glossy Ibis flying over the northern section of Lake Joondalup (2½ miles north-west of Wanneroo township) during March 1959.

—A. A. BURBIDGE, Mandurah.

The Crested Pigeon Breeding near Northam.—The following item is a further contribution to the documentation of the gradual extension southwards of the Crested Pigeon (*Ocyphaps lophotes*). On September 8, 1961, I found a pair of Crested Pigeons nesting in a needlewood tree (*Hakea preissii*), at Seabrook, 4 miles S.E. of Northam. There were two eggs in the nest and these were still unhatched on September 20. When I next visited the nest, on the 25th, both eggs had hatched and subsequently the parent birds were observed with the young ones on several occasions.

Although Crested Pigeons have been seen in this area for several years, this is the first time I have recorded them nesting here.

—A. L. MILHINCH, Seabrook, via Northam.

Spread of the Crested Pigeon.—The southward movement of the Crested Pigeon (*Ocyphaps lophotes*) is further indicated by the following records:—

Wyalkatchem. Mr. M. W. Cook stated that in 1956 the birds appeared at this town. In 1952 they had arrived at Nalkain, 14 miles north of Wyalkatchem.

Tammin. Mrs B. R. Neek, writing on July 7, 1960, reported a bird which appeared to be a Crested Pigeon and stated that a number had been seen in the district and were new to the area.

Mundaring. Mr. A. P. Dillistone, in a letter of May 9, 1960, reported occasional birds. He also mentioned that in 1905 in the Chapman district north-east of Geraldton flights of these pigeons were common though the birds did not stay. In later years they became more confiding and began to feed in the stockyard.

Biekley. A bird was seen on the coastal plain flats west of the Darling Range scarp in October 1959. The children at the Orange Grove School stated that three birds were resident in the area.

Wembley Downs. At my home on April 11, 1960, a Crested Pigeon landed on the telephone wires. In the same district various friends had commented on the appearance of a "bird with a crest" about the same time. —V. N. SERVENTY, Wembley Downs.

Curlews in a Perth Suburb.—Recently, whilst sleeping on a poultry farm in Uranium-street, Kewdale—a suburb of Perth 6 miles S.E. of the G.P.O.—I was surprised to hear the call of Curlews (*Burhinus magnirostris*), during each of three successive evenings.

On inquiry I learnt that these birds had been there for at least 8 years and had become quite used to living on the partly cleared banksia, paper bark and red gum land which is the general run of the country in that area.

On occasions when packing eggs a Mr. MacGregor who lives in Uranium-street tells of how these Curlews "land-in" close to the house at night where he works packing eggs and several times they have given him quite a fright when they called out almost under the window. They call out intermittently through the night, but were never heard earlier than 8 p.m. during the second week of February 1962.

Frogs are numerous in and around MacGregor's place and it could be one of the reasons for the birds having stayed there for so long.

On one occasion, some 4 years back, I saw two of these birds during the day standing close to a paper bark in the short dry grass. They were motionless but quite confident of their safety with human beings close by.

The above area is to be resumed shortly for a railway marshalling yard. —N. E. STEWART, Cottesloe.

A Record of the Parasitism of New Guinea Frogs' Eggs by Dipterous Larvae.—Whilst collecting amphibia near Nondugl in the Central Highlands of New Guinea in 1960, the writer observed numerous clumps of frogs' eggs laid by *Hyla* and *Nyctimystes* spp. heavily infested with dipterous larvae. The spawn of several species is laid from February to May on the surface of water at the edge of turbulent mountain streams. The ova are unpigmented and macrolecithal, with diameters of up to 4.5 mm., and the albumen is gelatinous, and firm so that the clumps retain a constant shape.